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CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

26 September 1968

SUBJECT: JOESTEN, Joachim Franz
aka KELL, Walter
aka DELATHIUS, Paul

ALLEGATION:

Joachim Franz JOESTEN, German-born journalist, has written eight books and numerous articles attacking the Warren Commission Report and accusing the CIA and FBI of assassinating President KENNEDY. According to JOESTEN, most of the witnesses wanted by GARRISON in his investigation, were CIA operatives.

Subject's latest endeavor is publication of a "Truth Letter" which purports to keep its readers abreast of current developments in the three assassination cases. The first issue of 15 September 1968 contains an article inviting the Presidential candidates to fire Mr. HOOVER and Mr. HELMS when they come to office.

CIA CONNECTION:

Subject was security disapproved for OSS employment in November 1943 because investigation failed to establish basic loyalty to the United States and its form of government. Reports were received that Subject was a German Communist but these were not substantiated.

In April 1951 the FBI advised they had no objection to the Agency's contacting Subject for routine interrogation as a source of foreign intelligence information. However, it was learned that he'd departed the U. S. for a year's tour of Europe and contact interest was cancelled.

SOURCES:

Subject's file. An article written by Subject specially for the MOSCOW LITERARY GAZETTE dtd 18 Sept 1968 (att. A). Announcement of publication of TRUTH LETTER (att. F).

OS INDICES RESULTS:

Subject's file reflects CIA connection as set out above. Pertinent to current interest in Subject attached is a copy of a summary dated 28 August 1964 which was prepared after publication of Subject's book "OSWALD: Assassin or Fall Guy?" (att. B).

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Of interest in Subject's file is a clipping from the LONDON SUNDAY TIMES for 31 October 1965 which is a letter he wrote to the TIMES denying charges allegedly made by the CIA that he is a Communist. One statement he made is as follows: "The only thing I have in common with the Communists is a profound loathing of the CIA...." (att. C)

In August 1966 Subject accused the CIA of stealing documents on President KENNEDY's assassination (which he had used as material for his book "The Truth About the KENNEDY Murder") from his trailer in Zurich Switzerland. (Att. D is a copy of a memo dated 29 August 1966 which the Agency sent to the Director, United States Secret Service about this incident.)

A State Department telegram dated 18 April 1967 (No. 614 from Stuttgart) confirmed that Subject was returning to the United States to meet District Attorney GARRISON in New Orleans concerning GARRISON's investigation. (att. E)

DETAILS:

Of note is the fact that Subject wrote his latest article "The CIA's Very Shady Business" for the MOSCOW LITERARY GAZETTE. Summaries have been previously prepared on the witnesses mentioned in this article and none have Agency connections. Guy BANNISTER Associates, Inc. was considered as a cover mechanism by the Agency in 1960 but after derogatory information was developed during investigation, the case was closed without action.

Subject's file contains a clipping from TOCSIN, a West Coast anti-Communist weekly, (5 September 1964), which states that Subject dedicated his book "OSWALD: Assassin or Fall Guy" to Mark LANE, OSWALD's self-appointed attorney. LANE has been making the same accusations about the CIA and FBI as Subject; supporting GARRISON's claims that President KENNEDY's death was a CIA conspiracy.

Subject's latest endeavor is the publication of a bi-weekly newsheet TRUTH LETTER which purportedly will keep its readers abreast of developments in GARRISON's investigation and the two other assassination cases (Dr. Martin Luther KING and Senator Robert KENNEDY). The first issue contains an open letter to presidential candidates, HUMPHREY and NIXON inviting them to fire J. Edgar HOOVER and CIA Director, Richard HELMS. (att. F)